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Board of Trustees January 26, 1981

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 26, 1981
Bangor Civic Center

PRESENT: Chairman Stanley Evans, Francis Brown, Patricia DiMatteo, Alan Elkins, Joseph Hakanson, Thomas Monaghan, Richard Morin, Ellen Platz, John Robinson. Absent: Severin Beliveau, Harold Raynolds, Harrison Richardson, Elizabeth Russell. Two vacancies. Staff: Chancellor McCarthy, Robert Binswanger, William Sullivan, Mary Ann Haas, Samuel D'Amico, Richard Eustis, Arthur Buswell, Constance Carlson, Einar Olsen, Hilton Power, Paul Silverman, and Robert Woodbury. Press and Public.

Chairman Evans convened the meeting. On motion made and seconded, the minutes of the meetings of December 15, 1980 were approved as circulated.

Chairman's Remarks. Dr. Evans took note of several changes in the Board's calendar. He said that the February meeting, which will be held on the 24th, will be a regular meeting instead of the special meeting on tenure as previously announced. Campus tenure nominations will be on the agenda for action. The special meeting on Tenure will be held in March and the meeting date has been changed from the 23rd to March 30th. Dr. Evans announced that an orientation session for new Trustees would be held on February 10th and all Trustees are welcome to participate. There was brief discussion of the location of Board meetings. Trustees Elkins and Monaghan expressed a preference for Bangor meetings to be held at the Bangor Community College Campus. Mr. Robinson said he thought more meetings should be held on the Campuses and, since Board meetings are being held on Mondays, he suggested that consideration be given to scheduling some committee meetings on Sunday evenings. Dr. Evans expressed concern for the recent lack of committee participation. He noted that there are issues which could probably be discussed in some detail by the standing committees and said he would encourage the chairpersons to schedule more committee activities. Mr. Monaghan said he thought that more open discussion was generated in meetings of the full Board than in committee meetings where contributions from Trustees who are not members of a given committee tend to be reduced. Dr. Elkins said he thought the larger setting of the Committee of the Whole may be more inhibitive than the smaller committee environment. Mr. Brown proposed that the standing committee's consider meeting several times a year to provide a mechanism for communication with faculty and student representatives.

Chancellor's Report. Chancellor McCarthy reported on the status of several studies which are underway.

- 1) A major report will be forthcoming soon from the committee studying the campus learning environment.
- 2) In response to recommendations in the report of the ad hoc Committee on Student Life, which underlined the need to bring faculty and students closer together, each campus has completed a study on faculty-in-residence opportunities.

- 3) A report on the University's state-wide efforts in health education has been prepared and will be presented later in the meeting by Director of University Health Professions Education, Dr. Harlan Philippi.
- 4) The Trustee ad hoc committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. Francis Brown is proceeding with its study of community colleges.

At the request of the Chancellor, the Presidents reported on Campus activities.

- UMA Acting President Hilton Power briefed the Trustees on the progress of the Campus planning effort. Initial reports from the five task forces have been submitted to a wide range of constituencies for review and comments, and the reactions are being evaluated.
- USM President Woodbury outlined a two-year program in which the University and the State will cooperate to determine how the University's applied research and technology capabilities can serve the needs of State departments and agencies.

The President announced the retirement of Walter Fridinger, effective March 1. In more than twenty years of service to the Campus, Mr. Fridinger has filled a number of top level administrative positions including Vice President for Administration and Acting President, among others.

USM is the recipient of a \$600,000 grant from the National Science Foundation which will be administered by the Center for Research and Advanced Study for the purpose of developing films and materials dealing with the intersection of science and ethics, for distribution to high schools throughout the country.

The USM Theater Department has been nominated as one of the outstanding groups in New England and a cast of players is rehearsing a Vonnegut play which they will perform in regional finals competition at Brandeis University.

- UMO President Silverman announced the establishment of the Office of Policy Analysis and Planning under the direction of Dr. James Horan who will coordinate the efforts of about 30 members of the campus community to develop ways to manage the institution more effectively and responsively.

In response to the changing composition of the student body, a task force on adult learners has been established to examine the needs and aspirations of older students, and an ad hoc committee on curriculum is evaluating

the curriculum for its relevance to the needs of women students.

UMO's ranking in national competition for federal grants has been rising over the last few years, particularly in research areas for acid rain, marine sciences and climatology. The institution is also working to enhance its relationships with industry to find additional ways to improve the economic vitality of the region.

The Campus has established a Laboratory of Surface Science and Technology (LASST) which is specifically designed to provide capability for development of high technology industry in this area. LASST is a multi-disciplinary effort involving several Colleges and departments and the facility is considered one of the best in New England.

President Silverman reported that the Campus continues to focus on the building of a concert hall and a long range plan is undergoing extensive review and study in preparation for submitting a recommendation to the Chancellor and the Board.

The Campus is currently recruiting to fill vacancies in the positions of Vice President for Academic Affairs, Vice President for Administration and Finance and Head Football Coach.

- UMM President Buswell reported on the status of the planning efforts which are underway. The project funded by a planning grant from the federal program for developing institutions has enabled the Campus to undertake extensive self-study which will help to establish goals and directions for the 80s. The first year of the grant runs through September 1981 and the Campus has been approved for renewal of funding for the second year of the grant. A second planning project, under the aegis of the Chancellor's Office, has been completed which identifies educational needs of Washington County and provides suggestions for ways that UMM could better serve this area.

The Mobile Graduate Program will get underway with the first meeting of the staff and students on February 8th.

- UMPI Acting President Constance Carlson reported that space has been found for an enlarged bookstore, and a faculty lounge.

Campus faculty are offering a special course this semester under the aegis of the Social Science Division. The faculty lectures focus on projections for the nature of the various disciplines in the year 2000.

The Humanities Division is developing a Bachelor of Liberal Studies program which would supplement the AS in Liberal Studies and would be designed primarily for the non-traditional students.

As a result of increased enrollments from the Loring Air Base and Houlton areas, preliminary talks have been initiated with NMVTI to explore the possibilities for a joint program which would lead to a bachelor's level degree.

- UMF President Olsen reported that a committee is studying residence management and two forums have been planned to gather information on residential life in response to Orange Book recommendations and the Trustees' interest in the campus learning environment.

The Title III planning grant has enabled the Campus to hire new faculty and undertake some new programs. The President reported that the faculty have been highly receptive to and supportive of the planning project and the Campus expects to involve the local community in the next phase of the process.

The Kellogg Foundation funding of the Health Education Research Center has terminated, but the Campus expects to continue its activities in this area by working with the Office of Health Professions Education to take a lead-Campus responsibility in selected health education areas.

Fire Safety Report. Mr. Eustis presented a report on the University's fire safety systems which covered safety education programs, fire drills, fire extinguisher and alarm systems, inspection and maintenance programs. He indicated the University has been fortunate in that over the past five years there have been only six fires which resulted in losses exceeding \$250. Most of the University's buildings are relatively low hazard, fire resistant structures and about a third of the dormitories are equipped with sprinkler systems. All of the dorms are equipped with extensive emergency exit lighting and for the last two years, there has been an ongoing program for improvement of fire alarm systems. Thirty one of the fifty dormitories already have automatic detection systems and funds are now available to upgrade ten others. The number

of available fire extinguishers is deemed adequate and over the next few months all extinguishers designated obsolete will be replaced. Mr. Eustis reported that the fire safety education program needs to be expanded. A video tape program on residential hall fire safety, developed in cooperation with MPBN, is being used, not only in the University but in other Universities in the U.S. and Canada, and it has been marketed to many other states across the country. Still, some problem areas remain and Mr. Eustis indicated that an expanded program is needed to better educate students, residential staff and administrators to potential fire hazards. The Chancellor's Office has committed \$50,000 for this year which will be used to match Campus funds to complete the upgrading and expansion of fire alarm and detection systems. It is expected that by the beginning of the Fall semester all residence halls will be equipped with automatic fire alarms and detection systems. During discussion, Dr. Elkins inquired about provisions for handicapped students in the event of fire. Mr. Eustis reported that fire alarm systems include flashing lights, and strobe lights or bed shakers have been installed in some instances, for the hearing impaired. He indicated that wheelchairs constitute a problem and the Campuses have been urged to develop evaluation plans. Dr. Elkins requested that the development of evacuation plans for handicapped students be made mandatory and that the staff report back in two months on implementation of this requirement.

Capital Construction Status Report. Dr. Elkins called attention to the report which was circulated with materials for the meeting. No action was required.

Campus Learning Environment. President Silverman presented a progress report on the activities of the committee. He reported that at its initial meeting on January 7th, the Committee focused on the contractual and legal relationship which obtain between the Campuses and students primarily in residence hall relationships and student conduct codes. Campus student affairs staff were also present for this meeting and a sub committee was formed from among the student affairs staff to review the various contracts or documents being used by the Campuses, in terms of the kind of criteria which might be appropriate and the need, if any, for standardization. Dr. Silverman said that the committee has begun to consider the use of time, outside the classroom, for cultural, educational and recreational activities which contribute to the total educational mission. During discussion Mr. Robinson asked about the Committee's objectives and requested that the Board have an opportunity to decide what kinds of environments it wants to make available and whether these should be the same on all Campuses. He suggested that the Committee develop, for Board discussion, a statement concerning the degree to which learning environments could be protected. The Chancellor said the Committee should be concerned for the different lifestyles which need to be addressed and for the recommendations from the Student Life Report which relate to the need for a clear statement of the standards which are expected. He indicated that Mr. Robinson's points would be added to the Committee's charge. Mr. Monaghan suggested that the Committee give some attention to the various governance documents such as the conduct codes, to insure that students aren't being isolated from the laws which govern the world outside academe.

Student Activity Fees. Chairman Evans recalled that at the last meeting Mr. Robinson had put forth a motion concerning assessment of student activity fees, which was discussed at length and eventually tabled to allow time for further evaluation of some of the issues raised. In the interim, the Administrative Council was asked by Mr. Robinson to suggest some alternative language. Chancellor McCarthy reported that the Council had discussed the Robinson resolution without suggesting an alternative, and President Power said he thought a great deal would be lost if the original proposal were to be adopted and that the door would be open to extension of the notion of optional support to the instructional area as well as student activities. President Woodbury said functions supported by activity fees were an integral part of the activities at USM. He said he thought the student government administered its funds carefully and that the process of determining where the dollars would go is a central part of education. President Silverman said there are minority views and concerns which need to be respected and provided for and that it is important to expose students to ideas and concepts they could challenge to develop their own sense of judgment. President Olsen said the proposed resolution constitutes a form of censorship. He said he thought a voluntary fee structure would be tragic for small campuses which tend to be isolated and without access to other extramural activities. Mr. Robinson reiterated his position that the resolution could not restrict free expression of dissent or grant campus administrators any authority they do not already have. The intent was to protect minorities who may object, on principle, to the support of certain activities with their funds. He said the wording of the resolution proposed in December was not satisfactory since it has been misunderstood, and he presented the following motion to amend the original resolution in its entirety:

MOVED that effective July 1, 1981, student activity fees will be collected on a voluntary "positive check-off" basis. Activities which are a part of the University program are expected to be included in the E & G budget and determined in accordance with the regular budgetary process.

The motion was seconded. As a further clarification, Mr. Robinson said he thought that these outside activities which contribute to the education of students should be determined by the faculty and included in the program budget. Other student activities could be supported on a voluntary basis. He suggested that action on the amendment be postponed until March to allow time for adequate response. After extensive discussion there was consensus that final disposition should be delayed. Dr. Evans noted that the March meeting was to be a special meeting on tenure, and on motion made and seconded, the amended resolution was tabled to the April meeting.

Gifts, Grants and Awards. Mr. Brown moved acceptance of the gifts. Several Trustees having left the room, the Chairman declared a brief recess until a quorum could be regained. After the recess, the motion was restated, seconded and it was

VOTED: to accept with gratitude all gifts, grants
and awards listed under date of January
26, 1981.

Athletic No-Need Scholarships. Mr. Harold Westerman, Director of Physical Education and Athletics, UMO, was present to provide a status report on the program, as requested by Trustee Elkins at an earlier meeting. Mr. Westerman briefly reviewed the development of the no-need scholarship program, noting that Board policy established a maximum level of \$400,000 per year for no-need scholarships, and requires that the funds be generated from private donations designated specifically for the program. Acknowledging that it is difficult to raise money for the program each year, Mr. Westerman reported that the level of support is steadily increasing. This past year the department was able to award 63 grants totalling more than \$230,000. He touched on the highlights of a report he had prepared which provided information about the process for awarding grants and distribution of awards by category. In response to questions, Mr. Westerman discussed the prospects for reducing the discrepancies between the men's and women's programs. He reported that the women's program has not been able to make use of all the funds available for women athletes primarily because AIAW regulations restrict the recruitment process, which makes it difficult to evaluate and attract talented athletes. The NCAA has recently relaxed their recruiting regulations for women, however, and it is expected that the problems in this area will soon be resolved. During discussion Mr. Westerman responded to other questions of interest from the Trustees. Dr. Elkins expressed his appreciation for the report. A copy of the financial aid report compiled for this presentation is appended to the file of these Minutes.

Appropriations Request - Status. Mr. Sullivan reported that the appropriations request approved by the Board had been submitted in accordance with the Governor's guidelines. The Part I request was restricted to the same level as the current year. The first priority for Part II was funds for continuation of basic needs which amounted to \$7.2 million in the first year of the biennium and an additional \$7.7 million in the second year, plus \$500,000 in each year for new programs in nursing and student life. The Governor's recommendation which went to the Legislature early this month supported the Part I request in full. From Part II, the Governor eliminated the funds for new programs and separated the continuation funds into two parts, inflation and energy (which he included in full) and wage and salary costs, which he postponed to a separate bill, to go to the Legislature later with the funding request for state employees' salaries, now being bargained. The Governor did not include in his recommendation the Part II request for \$600,000 for replacement of equipment at MPBN, but his office recommended financing this item through a bond issue, since it represents a long-term capital investment. No date has been set for the University's budget hearing.

Mid-Year Financial Status. Mr. Sullivan distributed a six-month E&G status report which summarized revenues and expenditures against budget, as of December 30, 1980. He reported that all campuses except UMO were in the black as of December 30 and that all campuses including UMO expect to end the fiscal year in the black.

Retirement Assistance Program. Mr. Sullivan reported that the University has had requests from time to time to provide additional assistance to retirees, particularly those who have been retired for some time and whose pensions have been eroded by inflation. He indicated that any cost-of-living escalator in the pension plan would be very expensive. He said it would be possible, however, to provide some assistance by extending health premium coverage to retirees on the same basis as that provided active employees, i.e., the University would pay the health premium in full for the retiree and would pay one-half of any premium for coverage of dependants. The staff proposed to extend this premium coverage to retirees in the University's health plan who had at least ten years active service and who have reached the normal retirement age of 65. Those who have retired on long-term disability would also be included. The cost of the program would be about \$71,000 per year. During discussion Mr. Robinson inquired about the cost of including those who take the early retirement option and was informed that to include this group would cost an additional \$45,000 annually. Mr. Sullivan noted that retirees under 65 were not included in the proposal at this time since this group consists of recent retirees whose retirement income is more competitive, and who often obtain other employment. Mr. Robinson said he thought this group to be more vulnerable with respect to medical expenses than those over 65 who have Medicare. Other Trustees concurred with this view but were concerned for the future costs of this program and questions were raised about the need for addressing any group other than those already retired. It was suggested that additional information should be gathered to determine the level of demonstrated need. After extensive discussion there was consensus that the Board should act on the proposal as presented and consider any further extension of the program at the April meeting. On motion of Mr. Brown which was seconded, it was

VOTED: That University retirees at or above the normal retirement age of 65 with at least ten years of University service who have remained in the University health plan be provided premium coverage on the same terms as active employees. This premium coverage was also extended to those former employees in the plan receiving benefits under the University's long term disability insurance.

Maine Consortium for Health Professions Education. Chairman Evans noted that the establishment of a consortium had been under consideration for some time and the concept has been developed under the leadership of Dr. Harlan Philippi. At the Chairman's invitation, Dr. Philippi presented

the formal proposal for consideration and action. During his presentation, which was illustrated with slides, Dr. Philippi reviewed the series of events which had culminated in the proposal for the University to participate in the consortium. He said that the purpose of the consortium is to improve health care in the State by improving educational opportunities in the health professions, and by finding ways to share the available resources in the State. Dr. Philippi had prepared a comprehensive report which was circulated with the materials for the meeting, and which included the assumptions and planning considerations on which the recommendation was based, along with the detailed proposal for establishment of the consortium, including the specifics of organization, membership, governance and administration. During his presentation, Dr. Philippi touched briefly on the structure of the consortium and the relationships among and between the participating members. He said that the consortium concept has generated a high level of interest throughout the state and University leadership for the program is considered essential. Following the presentation, Chancellor McCarthy said his perception of the University's role in the consortium was that of convenor, which would be an important and necessary role for the institution to take, and he recommended approval of the proposal.

During discussion, Dr. Elkins commended Dr. Philippi for his work in developing the proposal and said University leadership for the program represents an appropriate responsibility for the institution.

After further discussion and on motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to accept the invitation for the University of Maine to participate in the Maine Consortium for Health Professions Education.

A copy of the detailed proposal is appended to the file of these Minutes.

Report of Committees

- a) Mr. Brown reported that after several meetings the ad hoc Committee on Community Colleges is moving in positive and specific directions and the Committee expects to develop recommendations for Board consideration at a future meeting.
- b) Mr. Brown reported for the UMO Inauguration Committee, that inaugural activities will extend over a period of several days focusing on the areas of excellence at UMO. All of the Trustees are invited and encouraged to attend.

Chairman Evans announced that the next meeting of the Board would be held in Bangor on February 24th in the Student Union at Bangor Community College.

On motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

JoAnne R. Magill
Clerk of the Board